

During this event, the Foundation honors distinguished Nebraskans for the impressive contributions to the State of Nebraska.

This year, Jack was selected to receive the WagonMaster Award, which recognizes citizens for their leadership in causes which benefit our state or nation, and who have set a tremendous example to others. This was an honor which was richly deserved, and I can think of no one better.

Jack's dedication to his craft, his profession, and his community truly sets the bar high for the rest of us. He will be missed, but he will continue to set an example for others to follow.

#### NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a minute to recognize an enduring legacy of John F. Kennedy—the Peace Corps—in recognition of its 48th anniversary this year and to commend 48 constituents from Northern Virginia currently serving in 35 countries around the world. It is an honor to represent these young people, as well as to serve with colleagues in both the House and Senate who have served our country in the enhancement of citizen diplomacy. I hope all Americans will join us in supporting and expanding this enduring commitment to convey our values as a nation.

A year ago, Fareed Zakaria wrote that after last November's election, "America will have to move on and restore its place in the world. To do this we must first tackle the consequences of our foreign policy of fear. Having spooked ourselves into believing that we have no option but to act fast, alone, unilaterally and preemptively, we have managed in six years to destroy decades of international good will, alienate allies, embolden enemies and yet solve few of the major international problems we face."

The London Financial Times last year reported that the U.S. has suffered a significant loss of power and prestige around the world in the years since the beginning of this century, limiting our ability to influence international crises, according to an annual survey from a well regarded British security think-tank. The 2007 Strategic Survey of the non-partisan International Institute for Strategic Studies picked the decline of U.S. authority as one of the most important security developments of the past year—but suggested the fading of American prestige began earlier, largely due to our failings in Iraq.

One of our most special and effective citizen agencies of public diplomacy is the Peace Corps. Think of this—more than 195,000 volunteers have served this venerable legacy of former President Kennedy, serving in 139 countries—where they bring our values to other peoples, and bring understanding and appreciation of other cultures back home.

The greatest gift of the Peace Corps and other civilian programs is not just that ordinary Americans share their values and our culture with other peoples, but also that when volunteers return, they bring greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

Foreign policy is not just what we do, but also who we are. America as a place has often been the great antidote to U.S. foreign policy—and it should be again. Again, as Mr. Zakaria wrote: "When American actions across the world have seemed harsh, misguided or unfair, America itself has always been open, welcoming and tolerant . . ."

At the end of the day, our openness is our greatest foreign policy. We have succeeded not because of the ingenuity of our government, but rather because of efforts like this unique program to keep ourselves open to the world—to sending our people out across the countries of the world to share our unique culture, our goods and services, our ideas and inventions, our people and cultures. This openness, this civilian diplomacy, has allowed us to make friends across boundaries. It will be central to our place as a nation in the future.

This week, as we celebrate National Peace Corps Week, we honor volunteers old and young who have served in developing countries since President Kennedy's call to service in 1961 in places as diverse as China, Mali, Azerbaijan, Macedonia, El Salvador, and Namibia. This can be lonely and demanding service, but service that can create enduring friendships and values that transcend boundaries and cultures.

Today, more than 8,000 Peace Corps volunteers around the world are currently providing training and education in 76 countries. These volunteers each donate their time and skills for over two years, in order to make a difference in the world and to promote understanding between cultures. By offering their valuable skills and showing a passion for helping others, they show the world that Americans value learning and cross-cultural exchange.

Volunteers work in areas of education, health and HIV/AIDS, business development, environment, agriculture and youth, and must often be creative and flexible when living and working in new cultures and learning new languages. The resulting experience is rewarding for all involved, and it highlights the importance of cooperation and involvement between cultures around the globe.

When volunteers return home and share their overseas experiences with their communities, the Peace Corps helps Americans as much as the people in developing countries. From recent college graduates to doctors with decades of experience, volunteers choose to use their valuable skills and education to help people all over the world, but their work affects their lives and our place in the hearts of friends around the globe long after returning home.

This week we remember the dedication and passion of Peace Corps volunteers, young and old, current and returned. We thank them for their service, and encourage more Americans to volunteer with the Peace Corps.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following infor-

mation for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Greensburg Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 416 South Main Street, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, 15601  
Description of Request: Appropriation in the amount of \$435,000 for the City of Greensburg Police Department Emergency Communications Interoperability System and Upgrades will allow for the purchase and installation of a dual 800 MHz Interoperable Radio System for the police department. This system will permit an upgrade of the Department's communications system and provide interoperability communications with other departments and first responders within Westmoreland County. The City of Greensburg Police Department provides dispatching service to the City of Greensburg, Southwest Greensburg, South Greensburg and Seton Hill University; therefore, this communications system is essential to allowing uninterrupted communications with all Westmoreland County Police and Fire Departments.

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Heidelberg Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 1631 East Railroad Street, Carnegie, Pennsylvania, 15106

Description of Request: Appropriation in the amount of \$10,000 for Technology Upgrades and Navigational Systems. Heidelberg Borough Police Department Technology Upgrades are necessary for the purchase of shared technology, police mobile data terminals and navigational systems. These technology upgrades will allow for faster and safer response during police stops and investigation detentions. These upgrades will assist with officer safety and information sharing and bring the Department into the 21st century.

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: Department of Justice, OJP, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Washington County District Attorney

Address of Requesting Entity: Washington County Courthouse, Washington, Pennsylvania, 15301

Description of Request: Appropriation in the amount of \$220,000 for the Washington County District Attorney's Drug Task Force Equipment and Technology Improvement Initiative. The Drug Task Force Equipment and Technology Improvement Initiative aims to benefit the Washington County District Attorney's Drug Task Force (WCDA-DTF) in their combined goal to fight the drug problems in the area. The WCDA-DTF is comprised of 45 officers, a majority of whom work for the 14 municipal police departments in the 18th Congressional District. Funding will provide the